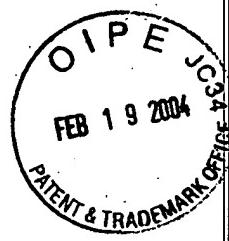


Image



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 04329.2553

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Masaaki HATANO et al.) Group Art Unit: 2827
Serial No.: 09/816,177) Examiner: Mitchell, James M.
Filed: March 26, 2001)
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

In reply to the Office Action mailed November 19, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration for the reasons set forth below:

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.

Attachment to this paper: Exhibit A

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com